

#10 / Amend
SNT C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: R. MARK *et al.*

Application No.: 09/824,838

Group Art Unit: 3723

Filed: April 4, 2001

Examiner: James Smith

For: SCREW HOLDER

Attorney Docket No.: 8932-392

AMENDMENT

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 11, 2002 please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file of the above-identified application.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 12, without prejudice, to read as follows:

- C1
1. (Amended) A device for securing a screw comprising:
a longitudinal shank having a central axis and rear and front ends;
a spindle, located at the front end of the longitudinal shank and concentric to the central axis, having front and rear ends, a substantially polygonal-shaped cross-section with a plurality of rounded edges and a plurality of concave side surfaces, a groove substantially parallel to the central axis, and a borehole coextensive with the groove; and
a spring wire having top and bottom ends, with the bottom end inserted into the borehole and the top end inserted into the groove,
wherein the spring wire projects transversely to the central axis across the cross-section when unstressed, the spindle is received into a screwhead aperture of the screw, and the screw is secured into position upon stress to the spring wire, and wherein the groove and the borehole are flush with one of the plurality of rounded edges or one of the plurality of concave side surfaces.

- C2
12. (Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the spring wire has a width of 2 mm.